GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:730
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000
PURCHASE OF WARSHIP FROM RUSSIA
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to purchase a major warship from Russia;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its specifications and the probable cost;

(c) the extent to which it is likely to meet the requirement of Indian Navy; and

(d) the time by which this warship is likely to arrive in India alongwith its life span and the present status of the proposal?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): 1. The Government of the Russian Federation have offered to gift 'Admiral Gorshkov', an aircraft carrier to India. The ship will have standard displacement of 34000 MT.

2. The ship will, however, need to be repaired, modified and modernized at the cost of the Government of India before it can be inducted into the service of the Navy.

3. The ship, after modernization, will be able to operate a mix of aircrafts and will provide required integral air power to the Carrier Task Force at sea for a period of 20 years.

4. An Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) on the subject is being discussed between the two sides for finalization.